

April 2010

HF Happenings 402

Geoff Levey, ZS6GRL, has been appointed as the SARL Contest Manager. Contact Geoff if you would like to serve on the Contest Committee.



67th Relief Expedition to Marion Island

The 67th Relief Expedition to Marion Island arrived on the island on 15 April 2010 aboard the SA Agulhas. Amongst the relief group is Pierre Tromp, ZS1HF, an adventurer, radio amateur and SAWDIS weather observer.

Pierre will be responsible for all radio communications on and from the island alias his occupation for the next year will be known as radio technician.

Marion Island is a small (290 km) island approximately halfway between Cape Town and Antarctica. It must have one of the environments least interfered with by man. This island only has a population of about ten people, each of whom is there on a fourteen-month contract. The team usually consists of a diesel generator mechanic, three meteorologists, a radio technician and a medical officer. The other team members are made up of researchers who are interested in the wildlife (penguins, elephant seals, albatrosses and other bird life) or plants on the island.

On the amateur radio front, Pierre will be active from the island. Times and QSL information, etc., will be announced later. Pierre will be using a special unique call sign, ZS8M. The Islands on the Air (IOTA) number for Marion Island is AF-021. The base camp's Grid square locator is KE83wc. He will be active on 160 to 10 m, 6 and 2 m SSB, HF digital and satellite.

The SAWDIS hope to receive regular updates from Pierre in the next twelve months. Lookout for some more articles of events from Marion Island. More information and photos can be found on

<http://sawweatherobserver.blogspot.com/2010/04/67th-relief-expedition-to-marion-island.html>

Radio Kuwait cleared from amateur radio band

Radio Kuwait was broadcasting in the Amateur Radio 7 MHz allocation; however, speedy action by the IARU Monitoring System Intruder Watch resolved the problem.

A 'combined action' by Ulrich Bihlmayer, DJ9KR, led to the removal of Radio Kuwait on 7150 and 7190 kHz. From 12 to 19 April 2010 the broadcaster had been transmitting programs in Arabic language with up to S9 + 30 dB signals blocking almost 20 kHz of the 40 m Band. Many national co-ordinators had requested their telecoms authorities to send "International Complaints" to the State of Kuwait. Faisal Al-Ajmi, 9K2RR, IARU Monitoring System Intruder Watch Co-ordinator in Kuwait rang up Radio Kuwait and asked for a frequency change.

Read the full IARU Monitoring System report at <http://www.iarums-r1.org/iarums/actions.pdf>. You can log reports of intruders in the Amateur Radio bands online at <http://peditio.net/intruder/bluechat.cgi>



IARU Region 1 EC Meeting 2010

Due to volcanic ash that is covering many parts of Europe, the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Executive Committee held its annual meeting via a web conference. The EC meeting was scheduled for 17 and 18 April 2010 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Due to volcanic eruptions in Iceland, most of the European airspace was closed and only five EC members made it to Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria. They were Tafa, 6W1KI, Vice President, Andy, HB9JOE, Treasurer, Dennis, ZS4BS, Secretary, Panayot, LZ1US, and Michael, OE1MCU, VHF Manager.

The rest of the EC had either to return home or to stay at their home QTH and participated in the EC meeting through WebEx (a remote meeting application). When the meeting started at 09:00 Bulgarian time, it was 2 am at the home of Region 1 President, Hans, PB2T, in Washington.

IARU Region 2 President, Reinaldo, YV5AMH, was unfortunate enough to be stuck in Budapest. He dialled in from his hotel room. The meeting went well and most of the agenda could be covered. Expect a meeting report soon.

The EC members in Sofia enjoyed a World Amateur Radio Day dinner on Sunday evening 18 April, hosted by BFRA, the Bulgarian national society.

My flights from Sofia to Munich and on to Johannesburg on Tuesday 20 April were cancelled. Thank goodness the young lady from Lufthansa at Sofia airport could get me flights via Swissair to Zurich and then to Johannesburg. I arrived back at home on Wednesday 21 April.

SARL National Field Day

Only 17 logs were received for the first leg of the SARL National Field Day. About 1 864 QSOs were made - 1 806 phone and 58 CW. On 40 metres some 1 230 phone QSOs were made. Now I wonder where the other logs are.

LISTEN, LISTEN and LISTEN, so that you write down the correct call sign and exchange. Score your log before submitting it, the committee had four logs to score. Do not solicit calls.

Single operator field station

- 1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 96 120 points [QRP]
- 2nd Christo Kriek, ZR6LJK, 13 995 points [QRP]
- 3rd Bryan King, ZS2SS, 8 400 points [high power]

Multi operator field station

- 1st West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 57 970 points [low power]

April 2010

ZS10WCS operated by the Northern Cape ARC

- 1 SARL 80 Metre QSO Party
- 2 Good Friday; World Autism Day
- 3 Two Oceans Marathon; April RaDAR contest
- 4 Easter Sunday
- 5 Family Day; Closing date SARL VHF/UHF logs
- 7 World Health Day; Closing date SARL Club contest logs
- 10 PIC Course, Durban
- 11 SARL President's Net
- 12 Schools Open
- 16 Closing date SARL 80 Metre QSO logs
- 17 World Haemophilia Day;
- 2010 SA AMSAT Space Symposium
- 17/18 IARU Region 1 EC Meeting, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 18 World Amateur Radio Day; Autumn QRP Sprint
- 19 Closing date RaDAR logs
- 22 Lyrids meteor shower, 21:07 CAT
- 23 Africa Malaria Day
- 23/24 SARL National Convention, Port Elizabeth
- 26 School holiday
- 27 Freedom Day



- 2nd Pretoria ARC, ZS6PTA, 50 750 points [low power]
- 3rd Hibiscus Coast ARC, ZS5HAC, 34 500 points [low power]
- 4th Sandton ARC, ZS6STN, 32 640 points [low power]
- 5th Vrystaat ARC, ZS4B, 28 695 points [high power]
- 6th KZN Radio Activity Group, ZS5KZN, 24 800 points [low power]
- 7th Secunda ARC, ZS6SRC, 21 780 points [QRP]
- 8th Centurion ARC, ZS6CEN, 7 902 points [high power]
- 9th Kempton Amateur Technical Society, ZS6KTS, 3 765 points [high power]

General stations

- 1st Philip Esterhuizen, ZS4PJ, 40 812 points [low power]
- 2nd Johan Esterhuizen, ZS4PP, 18 630 points [high power]
- 3rd World Cup Soccer, ZS10WCS, 11 016 points (operated by ZS4BFN) [high power]
- 4th Derek Stuart, ZS2J, 7 641 points [high power]
- 5th Pierre van Deventer, ZS6BB, 4 410 points [high power]

SARL 80 m Club Championship

Two clubs submitted logs for the SARL 80 m Data contest held in March.

- 1st West Rand ARC, 9 points (3 logs)
- 2nd ZS Contest Group, 3 points (1 log)

Standings after the second leg are

- 1st ZS Contest Group, 96 points
- 2nd West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 68 points
- 3rd Port Elizabeth ARS, ZS2PE, 63 points
- 4th Antique Wireless Association, ZS0AWA, 59 points
- 5th Sasolburg ARC, ZS4SRK, 31 points
- 6th Lichtenburg ARC, ZS6LRK, 17 points
- 7th Secunda ARC, ZS6SRC, 4 points

Radio Technology in Action Symposiums

The dates for the 2010 Radio Technology in Action Symposiums have been finalised. Make a note in your diary now, as the RTA is another SARL event not to be missed. Programme details will be announced at the SARL National Convention and thereafter will be available on the web.

A new feature of this year's RTA is that three kits will be available. Although the kits may be pre-booked and paid for in advance, they will only be available at the RTA venues and not before or after the event. In other words, to buy a kit you have to attend the RTA. The three kits are:

- . DSSS kit complete with common cables 100 mW on 40 m.
- . TDR 1 GHz sampling scope, runs on a USB port on PC or laptop.
- . DSP Kit - digital signal processing speaker kit.

Full details and kit pre-order forms will be available on the SARL web pages after the SARL National Convention.

The RTA dates to diarise are - Durban: 29 May 2010; Cape Town: 24 July 2010; Port Elizabeth: 21 August 2010 and Gauteng: 18 September 2010



African DX

Canary Islands, EF8. Val, RD3AF, will be active as EF8M from Santa Maria de Guia, Las Palmas Gran Canaria (AF-004, DIE S-005, WLOTA L 0969), during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (29 and 30 May) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via UA3DX.

Seychelles, S7. Vlad, RA9LR, will be active as S79LR from Desroches Island (AF-033) between 1 to 7 May and from Mahe Island (AF-024) between 8 and 10 May. Activity will be mainly on the low bands using 100 watts into a DX-88 vertical, operating CW, RTTY, PSK63 and some SSB. He plans to possibly participate in the ARI International DX Contest (1 and 2 May), Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest (8 and 9 May) and CQ-M International DX Contest (8 and 9 May). Listen for the operator to announce the QSL route.

Sudan, ST2. Robert, S53R, will be active as ST2AR from Khartoum during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (29 and 30 May) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via S53R.

South Africa, ZS. Bernie, ZS4TX, will be active as ZS9X during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (29 and 30 May) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (??) entry. QSL via LoTW.

Tunisia, 3V. A group of Italian radio amateurs led by Alfredo, IK7JWX, plans to activate the island of Djerba (AF-083, ARLHS TUN-022, WLOTA L-1394) as TS8P and TS8P/p starting around 27 April. The team includes Leo, I8LWL, Raul, IC8ATA, YL Titti, IK8GQY, Armando, IK8BPY, Simon, IZ7ATN, Ampelio, ISOAGY, Antonello, IK2DUW, YL Rosy, IW2NLC, Michele, IK2GPQ, Ruggero, IK2PZC, and Stanislav, IZ2GRG. After that, they will work also from the island of Kuriat (AF-092, ARLHS TUN-002, WLOTA L-0974). Activities will take place on CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31 on all HF bands and 6 m until 4 May. QSL via IK7JWY, direct or via bureau.

Ghana, 9G. Station 9G1AA has been active on 15 metres around 16:00 to 18:00 UTC. QSL via PA3ERA.

Burundi, 9U. Paul, 9U1P, has been active on 15 metres using PSK31 around 07:00 UTC. QSL via ON4LN.

Central Republic Africa, TL. Jan, DJ8NK, and Paul, F6EXV, will be active from the Central African Republic from 13 - 26 May. They will be guest operating as TLOA from Christian's QTH, and will concentrate on RTTY (Jan) and CW (Paul) with two stations. Look for them on 40 - 6 metres, with some possible activity on 80 and 160 metres (but it is "late in the season for low bands, plus it is the rainy season in TL with daily storms," Paul says). They are unlikely to have internet access the station and there will be no on-line log search. QSL direct to Christian Saint-Arroman, Chemin de Mousteguy, 64990 Urcuit, France (please note that neither Jan nor Paul will be able to confirm any contact). Chris, TLOA, expects to definitively leave the Central African Republic in July and probably go to Niger (5U5U) next September.

Special Event Stations

4U10, Austria. The Vienna International Amateur Radio Club, 4U1VIC, will activate special event call sign 4U10NPT between 1 and 31 May. Activity is to promote the "2010 Review Conference

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Eleanor Roosevelt 



of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" (NPT). QSL via OE1ZKC. For DXCC or other award purposes, it shall be counted as the same as 4U1VIC. For the detail of the conference, please refer to the following URL address <http://www.un.org/en/conf/npt/2010/>

HF2010, Poland. Piotr, SP2QCW, is now active as HF2010WECK (prefix first time used) until 30 June. Activity is to celebrate the "World Enduro Championship in Kwidzyn (June 2010)". Operations will be on all bands and all modes. QSNs show activity this past weekend was on 30, 20 and 17 metres using RTTY and PSK. QSL via SP2QCW (see information on QRZ.com).

Club News

The John Vorster Technological Secondary School Radio Club, ZS6JVT, will have a flea market stating at 08:30 CAT on Saturday 8 May 2010. The Club can be found at 1072 Meyer Street, Rietfontein, Pretoria.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 19 to 26 April 2010.

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 19 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 April 2010

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.fpqrp.com/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php>

AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest

23:00 UTC 21 April to 23:00 UTC 22 April and 23:00 UTC 24 April to 23:00 UTC 25 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 and 20 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST, Equipment Type and Equipment Year

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 23 May 2010

E-mail logs to: (no info)

Mail logs to: (no info)

Find rules at:

<http://www.antiquewireless.org/hamevents2010.htm>

RSGB 80 m Data Club Championship

19:00 - 20:30 UTC 22 April

Mode: RTTY, PSK

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and Serial No

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)



Submit logs by: 29 April 2010
Upload log at:
<http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/r80mcc.shtml>

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 23 April
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO;
non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 25 April 2010
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

10-10 International Spring CW Contest
00:01 UTC 24 April to 23:59 UTC 25 April
Mode: CW
Bands: 10 m Only
Classes: Individual; Club; QRP
Max power: non-QRP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Name, state, province or country and 10-10 number
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with a non-member; 2 points per QSO with a 10-10 member
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 10 May 2010
E-mail logs to:

tentencontest[at]roadrunner[dot]com
Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 131 Valencia Lane, Statesville, NC 28625, USA
Find rules at:
<http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRulesRevised.pdf>

SP DX RTTY Contest
12:00 UTC 24 April to 12:00 UTC 25 April
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band; Multi-Op; SWL
Exchange: SP: RST and 1-letter province; Non-SP: RST and QSO No
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with same country; 5 points per QSO with different country same continent; 10 points per QSO with different continent
Multipliers: Each SP province once per band; Each DXCC country once per band; Each continent once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total DXCC/province mults x continent mults
Submit logs by: 25 May 2010
E-mail logs to: sprtty[at]pzk[dot]org[dot]pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.pkrvg.org/zbior.html>

Helvetia Contest
13:00 UTC 24 April to 12:59 UTC 25 April
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB, Mixed or Digital; Single Op QRP Mixed; Multi-Op - CW, SSB, Mixed or Digital; SWL
Max operating hours: 18 with a maximum of two rest periods of any length
Exchange: HB: RS(T) and Serial No. and 2-letter canton; non-HB: RS(T) and Serial No.
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: HB Stations: 1 point per QSO with Europe; HB Stations: 3 points per QSO with non-Europe; non-HB Stations: 3 points per QSO with HB
Multipliers: HB Stations: Each canton once per band; HB Stations: Each DXCC country



once per band; non-HB Stations: Each canton once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 26 May 2010
E-mail logs to: contest[at]uska[dot]ch
Mail logs to: Dominik Bugmann, HB9CZF, Im Geeren 27a, 8112 Otelfingen, Switzerland
Find rules at:
http://www.uska.ch/typo/fileadmin/download/Contest/KW/1-static/KW-Contest_english_2010.pdf

QRP to the Field

15:00 UTC 24 April to 03:00 UTC 25 April
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40L, 40H, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op (see rules for theme); Multi-Op (see rules for theme); Club (see rules for theme)
Exchange: RST, class and state, province or country
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once per band
Location: Theme: x3, Field: x2, Home: x1
Score Calculation: Total score = QSO points x total mults x location mult
Submit logs by: 1 June 2010
E-mail logs to: na5n[at]zianet[dot]com
Mail logs to: Paul Harden, NA5N, QRPTTF 2008, PO Box 757, Socorro, NM 87801, USA
Find rules at:
<http://www.zianet.com/qrp/QRPTTF/ttf.html>

Florida QSO Party

16:00 UTC 24 April to 01:59 UTC 25 April and 12:00 - 21:59 UTC 25 April
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op - CW, Phone or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Multi-Single - CW, Phone or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Multi-Multi - CW, Phone or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Mobile Single Op - CW, Phone or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Mobile Single Op and Driver - CW, Phone or Mixed - QRP, Low or

High School - CW, Phone or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; SWL
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: FL: RS(T) and county; W/VE: RS(T) and state or province; DX: RS(T) and DXCC prefix
Work stations: Once per band per mode per FL county
QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO
Multipliers: FL Stations: Each state, VE area, DXCC country, maritime region once per mode; Non-FL: Each county once per mode
Power: High: x1, Low: x2, QRP: x3
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power mult
Submit logs by: 25 May 2010
E-mail logs to:
logs[at]floridaqsoparty[dot]org
Mail logs to: Florida QSO Party, c/o Ron Wetjen, WD4AHZ, 5362 Castleman Dr., Sarasota, FL 34232, USA
Find rules at:
<http://www.floridaqsoparty.org/rules.html>

Nebraska QSO Party

17:00 UTC 24 April to 17:00 UTC 25 April
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 m
Classes: Single Op; Multi-Single; Mobile
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: NE: RS(T) and county; non-NE: RS(T) and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band per mode per NE county
QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW or digital QSO
Multipliers: NE Stations: Each NE county, state, province, DXCC country once; Non-NE: Each county once
Power: High: x1, Low: x2, QRP: x3
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power mult
Submit logs by: 31 May 2010
E-mail logs to: nqp[at]hdx[dot]net
Mail logs to: HDXA NQP, PO Box 375, Elkhorn, NE 68022-0375, USA



Find rules at:

<http://www.hdx.net/neqso/neqso.htm>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 28 April
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 30 April
MARAC CW QSO Party, 00:00 UTC 1 May to 23:59 UTC 2 May
MARAC SSB QSO Party, 00:00 UTC 1 May to 23:59 UTC 2 May
10-10 International Spring Digital Contest, 00:01 UTC 1 May to 23:59 UTC 2 May
7th Call Area QSO Party, 13:00 UTC 1 May to 07:00 UTC 2 May
AGCW QRP/QRP Party, 13:00 - 19:00 UTC 1 May
Indiana QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 1 May to 04:00 UTC 2 May
New England QSO Party, 20:00 UTC 1 May to 05:00 UTC 2 May and 13:00 - 24:00 UTC 2 May
ARI International DX Contest, 20:00 UTC 1 May to 19:59 UTC 2 May
RSGB 80 m SSB Club Championship, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 3 May
ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 4 May
MIE 33 Contest, 11:00 - 15:00 UTC 4 May and 23:00 UTC 4 May to 03:00 UTC 5 May

This week in History

The week starting Monday 19 April 2010

1507 - M. Waldseemuller, Germany, names 'Amerige' to the part of the globe, America.
1809 - Australia's first Post Office opens in Sydney.
1892 - Duryea, first commercially successful US car made in Springfield.
1895 - W. Latham - the first moving picture projected on a screen in New York.
1900 - Marconi International Marine Communication Company Ltd., formed.
1902 - Radium first isolated by Marie and Pierre Curie.
1914 - M. Guillaux flies first loop-the-loop in Australia over Sydney.
1915 - Gallipoli Landings - an ill-fated but heroic campaign commenced.

Important Notice from Eskom regarding power outages:

Eskom would like to remind its customers that it is no longer politically correct to refer to power failures as "black-outs." Reference must now be made to "previously lit" areas.

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslite, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Maurice, F5NQL, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

Please share your copy of HF Happenings with your radio amateur friends and club members. Pass it along your club e-mail list

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Eleanor Roosevelt 